

furniture is all hers
and the dishes and pots
and pans under the sink.
You're almost thirty and
don't know what you want
to do forever. At first
she says it's because you're
too sensitive and cooks
you Chinese food in her
wok. She likes wine and
cheese. You like beer
and pretzels. Her ex-
boyfriends were handsome
wrestlers, poets & musicians.
At least one was a
"rising star" in his field.
Your ex-girlfriends left you
the way they found you.
When you first move in together
she buys a gold chain for
your neck. After six
months she gets you
new underwear. In a
year you wake up,
kiss her back, her neck,
stroke her hips and try
to reach for her cunt.
She gets up and makes
coffee. You drink it
on the couch with a headache
while she runs
the vacuum cleaner
under your feet.

MEXICO

Kerouac called it "Fellaheen earth."
I still know it
as some barefoot place
far away as 1955.
Every winter drinking too much
I say I'll go there soon
driving an old Chevy nobody wants
to that spot on the map
I pull from the bookcase
the coldest night in January --
promises of poems and love.
\$3000 left me by a distant aunt

could keep me there a year.
Drunk enough I convert it
to pesos and hours in the sun.
But I can't get past the border.
During February vacation I cross
alone at midnight and get
gypped by the cab driver who hands
me the wrong change in the dark,
disappointed I don't want Boys' Town.
In the only restaurant open I eat
cabrito and hear a guitar. A small
boy plays, his mother sings. I
tell the waitress, "Mas cerveza,
por favor" and know I'll
be back the next night.
This time I let the driver
take me where he wants.
A cowboy from Del Rio
tells me not to fear
the clap. Ten years
he has come here safely.
Whores who've traveled up the roads
I wish to follow down
tell me I've grown old and weak
and mock my need.

CUNT IS JUST ANOTHER FOREIGN COUNTRY

I toss the word "vagina" around my head.
It makes me think of Argentina.
They're equally distant.
It's been so long there was a woman
I could imagine naked
and imagine it could
happen.

I stare at them
in travelogues;
flat bellies and
breasts nearly
exposed to the nipple.
\$700 and they will
be waiting in Montego Bay.

There are whores
somewhere for the hungry
like me.
I could come quick,